

# Calendar No. 1062

68TH CONGRESS }  
2d Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT  
No. 1003

## PRECANCELED STAMPED ENVELOPES

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FEBRUARY 3 (calendar day, FEBRUARY 5), 1925.—Ordered to be printed

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Mr. STERLING, from the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads,  
submitted the following

### REPORT

[To accompany S. 3799]

The Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads, having had under consideration the bill (S. 3799) authorizing the Postmaster General to permit the use of precanceled stamped envelopes, reports the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that the bill do pass without amendment.

This legislation is desirable in order that users of large quantities of Government stamped envelopes may thereby secure more expeditious handling of their mail, and that the Government may be saved the time and expense involved in canceling the envelopes at the time of mailing.

For a great many years the Post Office Department has authorized the use of precanceled adhesive stamps on mail of persons and concerns having large quantities. The saving to the Post Office Department by the use of precanceled stamps is estimated to be more than \$150,000 a year.

The Post Office Department has also heretofore been authorized to grant permits, under certain regulations, for mailing different classes of mail without stamps affixed, the postage thereon being paid in money. While there is no doubt some saving to the department under the permit system, it involves considerable bookkeeping. It also necessitates a considerable investment on the part of the mailers for meters. In the precancellation of stamped envelopes, no such investment will be necessary.

In the last fiscal year more than a billion and a half "special request" envelopes were ordered. "Special request" envelopes are the Government stamped envelopes, ordered in lots of 500 or more, bearing the purchasers return card. The Post Office Department estimates that if all of these special request envelopes had been precanceled, which would have made it unnecessary for the Postal Service to

cancel them, there would have been a saving in the cost of cancellation to the department of more than \$52,000. Under regulations which it is expected the department will prescribe if this bill becomes law, requiring the separation of such mail by States and cities, there will be an additional saving to the department.

The Post Office Department recommends the enactment of the bill, as will be shown by the following letter from the Postmaster General to the chairman of the committee:

OFFICE OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL,  
Washington, D. C., January 13, 1925.

Hon. THOMAS STERLING,  
Chairman Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads,  
United States Senate.

MY DEAR SENATOR STERLING: I have your letter of the 10th instant, transmitting a copy of Senate bill 3799, providing for the precancellation of embossed stamped envelopes.

The enactment of such legislation would relieve the Postal Service from the time and expense involved in canceling the envelopes at the time of mailing and would, therefore, in cases where large quantities of mail are presented, materially facilitate and expedite the handling and dispatch of such mail. The department, therefore, recommends the enactment of this bill into law.

Very truly yours,

HARRY S. NEW, Postmaster General.